

# SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 28, 2023

The Sustainability and Transportation Committee of the City of Mesa met in the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on September 28, 2023, at 10:43 a.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT	COMMITTEE ABSENT	STAFF PRESENT
Alicia Goforth, Chairperson Francisco Heredia Jennifer Duff	None	Candace Cannistraro Holly Moseley Jack Vincent

Chairperson Goforth conducted a roll call.

1. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

2-a. Hear a presentation and discuss development of a micromobility and parking plan for downtown Mesa.

Downtown Transformation Manager Jeff McVay introduced Economic Development Project Manager Jimmy Cerracchio and displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 1)**

Mr. Cerracchio discussed the improvement goals for various forms of micromobility throughout Downtown Mesa for residents and visitors. He described the scope of the work involved in creating a micromobility system in Downtown Mesa, including community engagement. He presented the budget and timeline for the micromobility project and expects a one-year turnaround once the project is launched. (See Pages 2 through 4 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Committeemember Duff, Mr. McVay explained that the \$100,000 budget relies on staff completing some of the items on the scope of work in-house, which will lower the cost of consultant services to remain on budget. He noted that if the \$100,000 budget is not sufficient, staff will return to City Council and request additional funding.

Committeemember Heredia expressed his support for micromobility and walkability for Downtown Mesa and suggested street connectivity to aid residents and visitors in traveling easily across streets.

Mr. McVay pointed out that he would like to develop a plan that provides Mesa residents with more options for commuting without having to use their vehicles, emphasizing that convenient

and appealing street crossings in downtown are essential. He added visitors will continue to drive here, and the City is considering options available to ensure that visitors can still enjoy Downtown Mesa by improving parking and maximizing parking usage.

Chairperson Goforth thanked staff for the presentation.

2-b. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide a recommendation on Mesa's right-of-way barricade policy and related fees and charges.

Transportation Director RJ Zeder introduced Assistant Transportation Director Erik Guderian, City Traffic Engineer Ryan Hudson, and displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 2)**

Mr. Zeder provided an overview of the Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) Program, including proposed amendments to the fee schedule. He reviewed the Mesa Municipal Code for the TTC Program authorized by the City Engineer. (See Pages 2 and 3 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Hudson stressed that the TTC Program is focused on providing safe work zones.

Mr. Zeder stated that the City is regulating barricades, not the construction beside the barricades. He advised the Transportation Department does not control the construction schedule, and the department's role is to ensure the safety of people, motorists, and pedestrians affected by construction, while creating safe work zones within construction zones.

Mr. Hudson discussed the TTC team and their responsibilities. He stated the permits submitted for the past five years have remained steady and are expected to increase this year. He explained that the main categories associated with TTC permits are right-of-ways (ROWs) permits, non-city utility permits, capital improvement projects, special events, emergencies and maintenance. (See Page 4 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Zeder stated that additional staff were hired to address the growing number of fiber optic permits.

In response to multiple questions from Committeemember Heredia, Mr. Zeder replied that the Transportation Department collaborates closely with the Engineering Department and Development Services to ensure full closures of entire streets and feeder streets are not blocked simultaneously. He noted the Transportation Department has denied requests that significantly impact the public. He added the Engineering Department is responsible for notifying property owners and businesses affected by City-funded capital improvement projects.

Mr. Hudson shared that the City manages an online tool that shows the current projects and restrictions that may be adjacent to other projects throughout the City of Mesa (COM).

Discussion ensued relative to ROW permits, standardized notifications, barricades, and a centralized database for road construction notifications.

Mr. Hudson summarized the complaints and the impacts of road construction on residents and travelers. He explained the impact of full arterial or entire road closures on a driver's daily route, and updating the TTC fees is one of the most effective and efficient ways of incentivizing shorter construction durations for Mesa's travelers. (See Page 5 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Guderian reviewed the description of services for construction activities, as well as the TTC proposed fee schedule. He advised the increase in fees for construction activity delays is intended to encourage contractors and construction work to be completed in a shorter period of time. (See Page 6 of Attachment 2)

In response to a question from Committeemember Heredia, Mr. Guderian confirmed that the fees for non-profits, church events, and one or two-day events will remain the same.

In response to multiple questions posed by Chairperson Goforth, Mr. Zeder responded that the increased fees are intended to address the major complaints from residents which include prolonged delays, barricades up without construction workers present, and complete road closures.

Mr. Zeder presented a chart of fee comparisons for two arterial projects and one neighborhood fiber project in other Maricopa cities. He indicated that the neighborhood project does not have the same traffic impact or pedestrian mobility impact as the arterial projects. He shared examples showing the City's emphasis on their fees. (See Page 7 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Guderian provided examples of projects and associated fees. He noted efforts to alleviate restrictions for a long period of time. (See Page 7 of Attachment 2)

In response to a question from Committeemember Duff, Mr. Hudson stated that per City Code, special events or City-sponsored events are not charged the TTC permit fees.

Mr. Zeder clarified that a non-City sponsored special event will have a TTC permit fee. He stated he will provide further feedback on special event fees when he returns to Council.

Committeemember Heredia expressed concern with increasing costs for non-profit organizations with limited resources, stating it may be detrimental to them hosting events in Mesa.

Mr. Guderian reported that the next steps will be to present the proposed fee updates to Council in December to go into effect on January 1, 2024.

In response to a question from Chairperson Goforth, Mr. Hudson explained that the public can provide their feedback during the open 60-day public comment phase.

In response to multiple questions from Committeemember Duff, Mr. Zeder explained the process for barricades used for City projects and permit fees.

Chairperson Goforth thanked staff for the presentation.

### 3. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Sustainability and Transportation Committee meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Sustainability and Transportation Committee meeting of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of

September 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Holly Moseley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

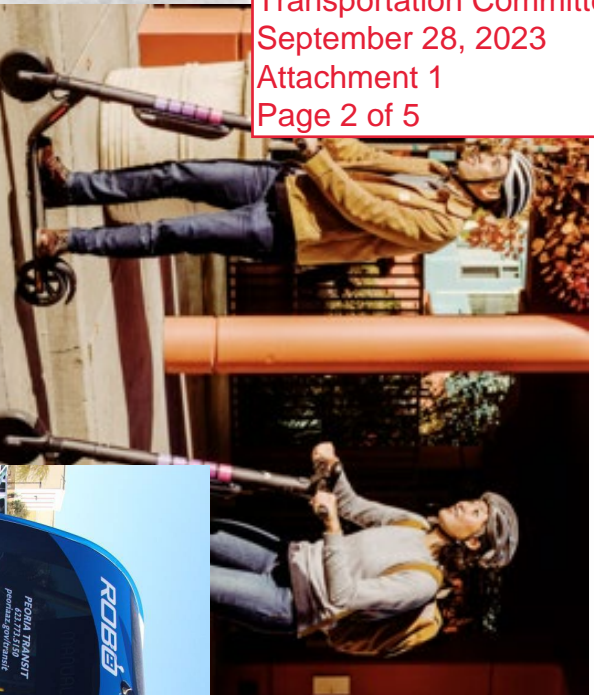
HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

ir  
(Attachments – 2)

# Micromobility & Parking RFQ

September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Jeff McVay**  
Manager of Downtown  
Transformation  
**Jimmy Cerracchio**  
Downtown Transformation  
Project Manager



## GOALS

- Improve conditions for vehicles, pedestrians, bikes, scooters, and other forms of micromobility
- Consider future mobility advancements (autonomous vehicles, autonomous shuttles, etc.)
- Update parking inventory and assess demand and needs
- Improve wayfinding for parking, transit and major attractions
- Focus on Downtown Mesa (Country Club to Mesa Dr, University Dr to Broadway Rd); consider connections to surrounding area

# SCOPE OF WORK

Assessment of existing conditions  
Community engagement

- Review of existing plans, city ordinance, and state regulations
- Develop plan and future-state recommendations
- Meetings and progress updates with City staff and Council



# BUDGET & TIMELINE

Budget: \$100,000

- Timeline
  - Selection process: 6 months
  - Plan development: 9-12 months



# Questions and Discussion



# Temporary Traffic Control Permit Fee Update

Sustainability and Transportation Committee  
September 2023



mesa·az

RJ Zeder, Transportation Director

Erik Guderian, Assistant Transportation Director

Ryan Hudson, City Traffic Engineer



**MESA MOVES**  
CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACES



# Presentation Overview

- Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) Program
- Issues to Address
- Proposed TTC Fee Schedule Update
- Comparison

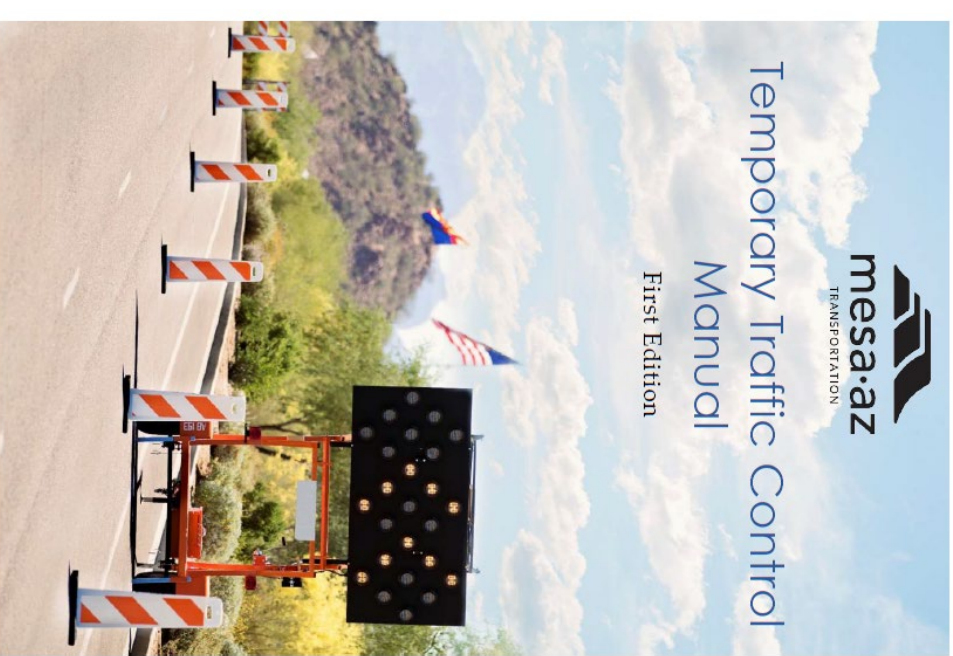




# TTC Program

## Municipal Code Title 10-10

- Authority for City Traffic Engineer to Issue Permits for all work within the City right of way
- Establishes a City TTC Manual
- Authorizes City Traffic Engineer or designee to enforce City TTC provisions
- TTC Permit does not approve/inspect a construction project, it assures the work zone is safe for the public and the workers

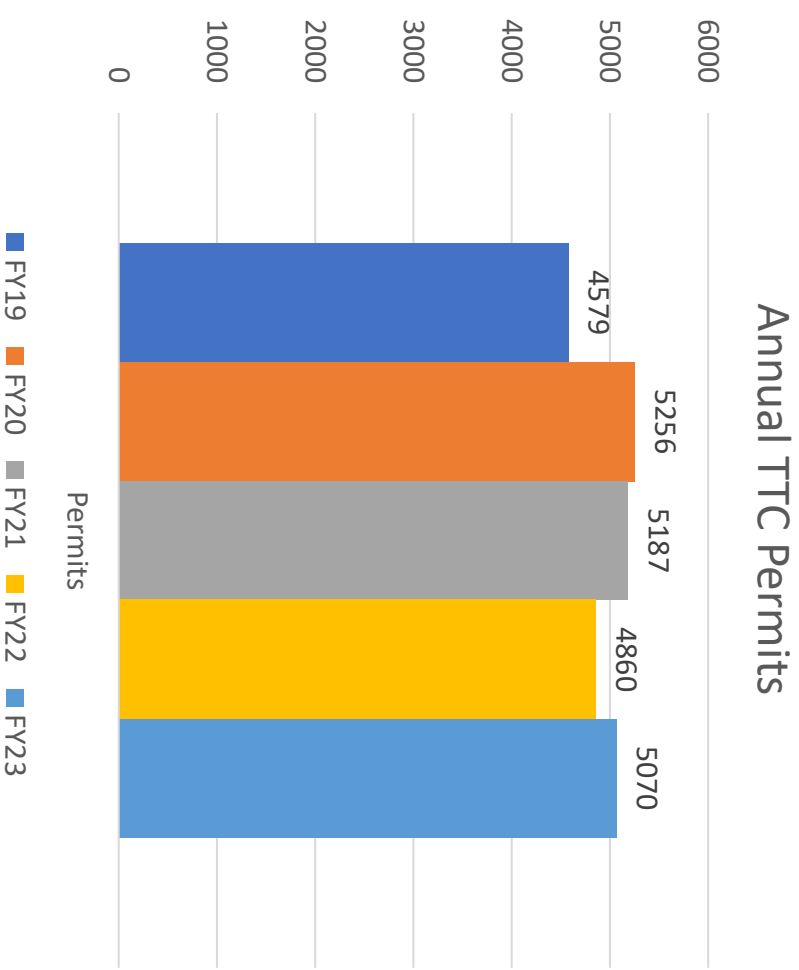




# TTC Program

TTC Staff – 8 full-time staff

- Review TTC Permit submittals
- Review TTC set up for compliance
- Permits Issued – 5,070 TTC Permits issued last fiscal year





# Issues to Address

Complaints we regularly hear:

- “The cones are up all day, and no one is working.”
- “Construction is taking too long.”
- “They are working in one spot, but there are cones up for a mile!”
- “I have to drive miles out of direction because of this closure.”





# TTC Fee Schedule Update

Description of Service	Current Fee Range	Proposed Fee Range	Unit	Notes
Minimum-No Restrictions	\$50	\$50		
Roadway or Alley Restriction	\$75	\$75	Per day & DIRECTION	
<b>24-HOUR ROADWAY OR ALLEY RESTRICTION</b>		<b>\$200</b>	<b>PER DAY &amp; DIRECTION</b>	
Left Turn Prohibition – Signalized Intersection	\$50	<b>\$100</b>	Per day & direction	
<b>24-HOUR LEFT TURN PROHIBITION – SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION</b>		<b>\$200</b>	<b>PER DAY &amp; DIRECTION</b>	
<b>TRAFFIC RESTRICTION EXCEEDS 1/2-MILE IN LENGTH</b>		<b>\$100</b>	<b>PER DAY &amp; DIRECTION</b>	
<b>PUBLIC IMPACT FEE FOR RESTRICTION DURATION</b>		<b>\$300</b>	<b>PER WEEK AFTER 28 DAYS</b>	Fee charged per week once a restriction has been in place for over 28 days
<b>ARTERIAL Sidewalk Closure</b>	\$20	<b>\$100</b>	<b>PER DAY</b>	No fee if a pedestrian walkway is maintained
<b>LOCAL/COLLECTOR SIDEWALK CLOSURE</b>	\$20	\$20	Per Day	No fee if a pedestrian walkway is maintained
Arterial Road Closure	\$2,500	<b>\$4,000</b>	Per day	
<b>COLLECTOR ROAD CLOSURE</b>		<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>PER DAY</b>	
<b>RESIDENTIAL ROAD CLOSURE</b>		<b>\$500</b>	<b>PER DAY</b>	
<b>BUS STOP CLOSED OR RELOCATED</b>		<b>\$50</b>	<b>PER BUS STOP PER DAY</b>	
Traffic Control Inspection Fee	\$90	\$90	Per hour	
Traffic Control Plan Review Fee (3rd & subsequent reviews)	\$50	\$50	Per sheet & review	



# TTC Fee Comparison

Project Example	Days	Current Fees	Proposed Fees	City of Tempe	City of Glendale
Residential Subdivision – Arterial Lane Restrictions in One Direction for 24 Hours per Day(168 days) and <b>Arterial Closure</b> (98 days) on Williams Field Rd	266	\$257,600	\$435,800	\$492,425	\$54,428
Commercial Development – Arterial Lane Restrictions in <b>Both Directions</b> on Elliot Road	263	\$19,725	\$49,521	\$4,750	\$117,328
Residential Fiber Project – Local Road Lane Restrictions Moving Throughout the Downtown Mesa Neighborhoods	114	\$31,430	\$31,580	N/A	N/A





# Questions/Discussion

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